



Duane W. Dedelow, Jr.
Mayor

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



233954

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**CITY OF HAMMOND**

RONALD L. NOVAK
Director

January 17, 2003

Frances DuPey, Commissioner - Lake County
2293 N. Main Street
Crown Point, Indiana 46307

RE: Calumet Container site located at 3601 State Line Road Hammond, Indiana

Dear Commissioner DuPey:

The City of Hammond wishes to inform you we suggested to the U.S.E.P.A. that we build a road across the former Calumet Container site which was formerly located at 3601 State Line Road. The heavy-duty trucks that currently service the U.S. Liquids, STA Decanting, Kenny Manta and Alpha Steel facilities in Hammond would utilize the road across the Calumet Containers site. The semi and heavy-duty trucks servicing these companies presently use 141st Street and thus travel through a residential area. The noise, heavy truck traffic and safety issues associated with the 141st Street route would be eliminated if these facilities could be serviced by a road traversing the former Calumet Container site.

The parcels that comprise the Calumet Container site are zoned I-2 Heavy Industrial and this road project would compliment that zoning classification due to the fact the road will service only the industrial companies in that immediate area. The development of a lighted road in this area will also assist in reducing the illegal dumping that has occurred along 136th Street near State Line. Lastly, the city of Hammond would be able to recoup some of the \$19,138.00 it expended in 1984 to help fund the U.S.E.P.A.'s planned removal action, which initiated a cleanup at the Calumet Container site. In 1983, the City of Hammond was advised that the planned removal would cost \$319,000, and of that amount, the State of Indiana and the State of Illinois were required, by regulation, to fund 10% of that amount. The State of Illinois was able secure their portion of the 10% but the State of Indiana had no matching funds. The City of Hammond stepped forward to meet the State of Indiana's contribution and eventually paid \$19,138.00 to help remediate the Calumet Container site. Over the years, various City of Hammond personnel have monitored the site and reported suspicious activities to the appropriate state and federal agencies.

The City of Hammond has had a long-term involvement with this site, which dates back to the early 1970's when environmental issues first manifested themselves. Local environmental ordinance violations were filed against the Calumet Container operation.

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Hammond, IN 46320
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The City of Hammond contacted state and federal agencies fearing soil and groundwater contamination at the site. When it came to remediating the site, the City of Hammond not only met its environmental obligation, but it met the financial obligation of the State of Indiana. Now that this site is in the final stage of remediation, the City of Hammond has developed a plan for its reuse that will benefit the residential neighborhood that abuts the site and the companies located along the State Line.

I hope you will look favorably on this proposal for the re-use for this site for a road will enhance the day-to-day quality of life of the residents who live in the area while also promoting economic growth.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Novak, Director
Hammond Department of Environmental Management

Cc: Mayor Duane W. Dedelow, Jr.
Dennis Terry, Chief of Staff